

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02379 250726Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 ARA-14 STR-04 /046 W

-----046858 251208Z /50

R 241555Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO USDA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3472

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS PRAGUE 2379

FOR USDA FAS F&O

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, CZ

SUBJECT: QUALITY PROBLEM WITH U.S. SOYBEAN MEAL CONTINUES

1. ON AUG 24 AGATT MET KOOSPOL OFFICIAL (FTO) TO DISCUSS LATEST SOYBEAN MEAL SITUATION. FOLLOWING ARE MAJOR POINTS MADE BY HIM.

2. CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S SOYBEAN MEAL IMPORT REQUIREMENTS IN 1977 WILL BE 10 PERCENT LOWER THAN LAST YEAR. THE DROP REFLECTS IN PART FOREWARD PURCHASES LATE LAST YEAR FOR 1977 AND BETTER DOMESTIC PROTEIN SUPPLIES FROM OTHER SOURCES THIS YEAR (SUCH AS LEGUMES, ETC.).

3. IN 1977 CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS STEPPING UP SOYBEAN MEAL PURCHASES IN BRAZIL BECAUSE OF BETTER QUALITY AND LOWER PRICE THAN U.S. MEALS. KOOSPOL OFFICIAL SAID CZECHOSLOVAK END USERS OF U.S. MEAL DISSATISFIED BECAUSE LOW PROTEIN CONTENT. DURING SECOND QUARTER 1977, U.S. MEALS SELDOM AVERAGED ABOVE 42 PERCENT PROTEIN OF THE 44 PERCENT CONTRACTED WHEREAS BRAZILIAN PELLETS ARRIVE USUALLY AT 48 PERCENT PROTEIN AS CONTRACTED. FURTHERMORE,
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THIS TIME OF YEAR, BRAZILIAN MEAL SUBSTANTIALLY CHEAPER, SINCE CZECHS CAN GET 48 PERCENT BRAZILIAN PELLETS AT SAME PRICE AS 44 PERCENT U.S. MEAL.

4. COMMENTS: CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S 1977 SOYBEAN MEAL REQUIREMENTS HOULD COME TO SLIGHTLY BELOW 500,000 TONS DOWN FROM 542,000 TONS IN 1976. BECAUSE OF

LOWER MEAL REQUIREMENTS, QUALITY PROBLEMS AND
GENERALLY HIGHER PRICES THAN COMPETING MEALS, IMPORTS
FROM U.S. WILL BE DOWN TO 260,000 TONS IN 1977 FROM
346,000 TONS IN 1976. WITH THIS DROP U.S. SHARE
OF CZECHOSLOVAK MEAL MARKET WILL FALL FROM 64
PERCENT IN 1976 TO 52 PERCENT IN 1977.

5. NOTE ALSO BUDAPEST'S 2749 (NOTAL). SIMILAR
QUALITY PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED WITH U.S. MEAL IN
HUNGARY TOO WITH SUBSEQUENT SHARP LOSS IN MARKET
SHARE.
FROWICK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORTS, SOYBEANS, FOOD & DRUG REGULATIONS, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Retention: 0
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 1500025
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: QUALITY PROBLEM WITH U.S. SOYBEAN MEAL CONTINUES
TAGS: EAGR, CZ, US, BR
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